Testimony of Ferne McAllister to the Committee on Public Health March 18, 2015

Honorable Committee Members:

My name is Ferne McAllister and I am the parent of a 19 year old with intellectual disabilities and significant mental health disabilities, as well as a daughter with ASD and significant mental health disabilities.

I **SUPPORT** S.B. 1088 AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY.

This bill would require the Commissioner of Developmental Services to develop a plan for the closure of state-operated intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Southbury Training School is prohibitively expensive and must be closed sooner rather than later. The monies saved need to go to the thousands requiring residential group homes as well as for in-home services.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting this bill.

Ferne McAllister